

I support RM-10810. Of all the proposals on the issue of the future of code in the Amateur Service, this one is the most pragmatic. It follows the international trend towards simplification of amateur license classes; and the clear international trend towards the elimination of the code requirement for HF operation, while satisfying the desire on the part of many amateurs for some degree of retention of the code requirement.

Granting General Class licensees full phone privileges is fair and realistic, and is in keeping with current international practice. It also simplifies the issue of policing and control. Furthermore, it is the view of many amateurs (including myself) that the philosophy of "incentive licensing" has failed in practice to achieve its original goal of improving the "quality" of the Amateur Service.

A 13 or 15 wpm code requirement for the Extra Class license would represent a meaningful and appropriate distinction for those dedicated to code operation and favoring its continuation.

I urge the Commission's adoption of RM-10810 as the best compromise proposal on this issue.

Respectfully,
Robert Zanotti
WA2UPQ (since 1963)